GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:68
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003
EXPLOITATION OF GROUND WATER
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States have exploited excess ground water resulting in depletion of water level;

(b) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Board has framed any guidelines in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the percentage of ground water exploited for irrigation, State-wise;

(e) the areas irrigated by exploited ground water in the country State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to recharge ground water level?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) As per observations made by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), significant decline in the levels of ground waterhave been observed in certain pockets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, NCT of Delhi, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b)&(c)Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. However, a Model Bill to regulate and control the development of ground water was prepared by the Union Ministry of Water Resources and circulated in 1970 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation. The Model Bill was modifiedand re- circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories for adoption . Moreover, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the regulation and control of ground water management and development in the country.

(d)&(e)State-wise details o f irrigation potential from ground water and the extent o f i t s use for irrigation are given in enclosed Statement.

(f) The Central Government has initiated following measures for ground water recharge in the country:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(iv) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 68 DATED 21.07.2003

IRRIGATION POTENTIAL FROM GROUND WATER (upto March, 2002 likely)

(m. ha: million hectare)

Sl. No.	States	Utilisable Irrigation Potential	Potential Created	Potential Utilised	Percentage utilised for Irrigation

		m. ha	m. ha	m. ha	%
1	Andhra Pradesh	3.960	3.311	2.365	59.72
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.018	0.001	0.001	5.56
3	Assam	0.900	0.442	0.284	31.56
4	Bihar	4.947	4.033	2.547	51.48
5	Goa	0.029	0.004	0.004	13.66
6	Gujarat	2.756	2.418	1.785	64.77
7	Haryana	1.462	2.379	2.240	153.25
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.068	0.027	0.021	30.66
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.708	0.013	0.011	1.55
10	Karnataka	2.574	1.321	1.031	40.07
11	Kerala	0.879	0.177	0.170	19.33
12	Madhya Pradesh	9.732	4.167	3.090	31.75
13	Maharashtra	3.652	3.549	2.469	67.61
14	Manipur	0.369	0.001	0.001	0.27
15	Meghalaya	0.063	0.002	0.001	1.57
16	Mizoram	0.005	0.001	0.001	20.00
17	Nagaland	0.005	0.001	0	0
18	Orissa	4.203	0.555	0.350	8.33
19	Punjab	2.917	6.925	6.303	216.07
20	Rajasthan	1.778	4.511	4.032	226.79
21	Sikkim		Not assessed		
22	Tamil Nadu	2.832	2.301	1.334	47.10
23	Tripura	0.081	0.013	0.010	12.41
24	Uttar Pradesh	16.799	16.349	13.574	80.80
25	West Bengal	3.318	2.239	1.597	48.13
	Total States	64.055	54.74	43.221	67.47
	Total UTs	0.116	0.066	0.065	56.03
	Grand Total	64.171	54.806	43.286	67.45

Source: 'Draft Report of the Working Group on Minor Irrigation for Formulation of the X Plan (2002-2007) Proposals', Minor Irrigation Division, Ministry of Water Resources.